



General Assembly

January Session, 2017

Raised Bill No. 7205

LCO No. 4685

* _____HB07205ED_____032717_____*

Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING EARLY LITERACY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-145r of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):

3 For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and biennially
4 thereafter, the local or regional board of education that employs a
5 certified individual who holds an initial, provisional or professional
6 educator certificate with an early childhood nursery through grade
7 three or an elementary endorsement in a position requiring such an
8 endorsement in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, shall require
9 each such certified individual to take a survey on reading instruction,
10 developed by the Department of Education that is based on the
11 reading instruction examination approved by the State Board of
12 Education on April 1, 2009, or a comparable reading instruction
13 examination with minimum standards that are equivalent to the
14 examination approved by the State Board of Education on April 1,
15 2009. The department shall design such survey in a manner that
16 identifies the strengths and weaknesses of such certified individuals in

17 reading instruction practices and knowledge on an individual, school
 18 and district level. Such survey shall be administered at no financial
 19 cost to such certified individual, [and in a manner that protects the
 20 anonymity of such certified individual.] The results of such survey
 21 shall be distributed to such certified individual and the supervisor of
 22 such certified individual who is responsible for designing and
 23 facilitating the program of professional development conducted
 24 pursuant to section 10-148b for such certified individual, but shall not
 25 be included as part of any summative ratings for performance
 26 evaluations, conducted pursuant to section 10-151b, and not be subject
 27 to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in
 28 section 1-200. Such results shall be used for the purpose of improving
 29 reading instruction by developing student learning objectives and
 30 teacher practice goals that will be included in the professional
 31 development conducted pursuant to section 10-148b for such certified
 32 individuals.

33 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2017*) (a) The Department of
 34 Education shall establish a reading readiness program that provides
 35 tiered supports in early literacy to local and regional boards of
 36 education. The department shall determine the reading readiness of
 37 each school and school district by considering any combination of the
 38 following: (1) Whether the school or school district has developed and
 39 is implementing a multiyear plan and allocated resources specifically
 40 for kindergarten through grade three literacy, (2) whether teachers and
 41 administrators have received training regarding the science of teaching
 42 reading, and the extent to which teachers and administrators have
 43 completed the program of professional development in scientifically
 44 based reading research and instruction, pursuant to section 10-148b of
 45 the general statutes, (3) the level of access to external coaches in
 46 literacy, and (4) whether there is reading intervention staff embedded
 47 at the school or in the school district.

48 (b) The department shall offer tiered supports in literacy to local and
 49 regional boards of education based on the reading readiness of a

50 school or school district, as determined in subsection (a) of this section.
51 Such tiered supports shall be provided as follows:

52 (1) Tier one universal supports shall be provided to all schools and
53 school districts and include online professional development modules
54 aligned with the reading instruction survey, as described in section 10-
55 145r of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and other literacy
56 modules and programs available in the state;

57 (2) Tier two targeted supports shall be provided to those schools
58 and school districts with an identified need and requires (A) certain
59 teachers and administrators to complete a two-year program of literacy
60 leadership training, (B) targeted professional development, in
61 accordance with the provisions of section 10-148b of the general
62 statutes, using the results of the reading instruction survey, as
63 described in section 10-145r of the general statutes, as amended by this
64 act, and (C) external coaching support using alliance district or
65 commissioner's network of schools funding; and

66 (3) Tier three intensive supports shall be provided to those schools
67 and school districts with an identified need and requires multiyear
68 support from the department and commitment from the school or
69 school district, including, but not limited to, the use of alliance district
70 funding to support a kindergarten through grade three reading
71 literacy program, technical support in the drafting and submission of
72 alliance district reading plans, identifying and embedding dedicated
73 literacy coaches and reading interventionists, targeted and intensive
74 professional development, and funds for assessment and instructional
75 materials.

76 (c) If such tiered supports are for a school participating in the
77 commissioner's network of schools, pursuant to section 10-223h of the
78 general statutes, or a school located in or a school district for a town
79 designated as an alliance district, as defined in section 10-262u of the
80 general statutes, such tiered supports shall be aligned with any
81 turnaround plan, developed pursuant to section 10-223h of the general

82 statutes, or alliance district plan, developed pursuant to section 10-
83 262u of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	10-145r
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	New section

ED *Joint Favorable*